(b) and (c) A massive awareness generation campaign has been launched through major national dailies to highlight the problem of child labour. A number of films and spots have also been prepared for campaign in the electronic media. For awareness generation activities at district level, Government has also released a total of Rs. 6.65 crores to 133 child labour endemic districts, at the rate of Rs. 5 lakh per district. The awareness generation campaign both at the national as well as the district level highlights the perils faced by children working in fire-works factories.

Trade Deficit

91. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's trade deficit was 1.5 billion dollars during April-July 1995 as compared to 593.78 million dollars during the last year;

(b) whether the trade deficit at the year-end is estimated to be four billion dollars and;

(c) what remedial measures are being taken to check to rising trade deficit and fall in the foreign exchange reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Trade deficit during April-July '95 is provisionally estimated at $ 1525.89 million compared to deficit of $ 593.78 million during the corresponding period last year.

(b) No estimate of trade deficit has been made. But considering the high growth rate of exports and the likely moderation in the growth rate of imports, the trade deficit is expected to be manageable.

(c) Trade deficit per so is not undesirable considering that our imports primarily comprise raw materials, intermediates, inputs, consumables, spare parts and capital goods needed by industry and item of mass consumption like edible oil and pulses.

Dispute Over remunerative prices to Coffee Planters

92. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any dispute between the Coffee Board and the coffee planters for providing remunerative prices for their produce in comparison to the open market; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Number of Sugar Mills in Eighth Plan

93. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar mills set up in the country during the Eighth plan period so far;

(b) the location of those sugar mills;

(c) whether Government propose to set up some new sugar mills in the remaining period of the Eighth plan; and

(d) if so, the details of the proposal of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) During the current Eighth Plan (1992-93 to 1996-97) (upto 30.9.95), 28 sugar mills have been set up in the country. A statement showing the location of these sugar mills is enclosed (See below).

(c) and (d) The Central Government does not set up sugar mills in any part of the Country. It, However grants letters of intent/industrial licences in accordance with the licensing policy guidelines issued for setting up of new sugar mills.